

WITNESSES TELL OF WARTIME RULE IN WEST VIRGINIA

All Civil Laws Are Ignored in Strike Zone.

CONSTITUTION IS OPENLY VIOLATED

Senate Committee Hears Evidence Sufficient to Convince It That Charges Are True—With Soldierly Frankness, Officers of Militia Describe Conditions.

Charleston, W. Va., June 11.—War-time rule in the coal strike regions of West Virginia was described before the Senate mine investigating committee here to-day, and after three military officers had described conditions, the committee expressed itself satisfied as to the charge that the "citizens of West Virginia had been tried and convicted in violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States."

Two members of the military commission, which, at the three different times, assumed absolute dominion over the so-called "insurrectionary" Virginia territory, testified that they were Captain Charles R. Morgan, a lawyer, and Major James I. Pratt, who was president of the second military court which took charge of the district. Both told the committee that they had previously conducted without regard to the civil laws of the State; that they arrested, arraigned, tried and convicted offenders in the strike zone without recourse to process of the civil courts, and imposed sentences without regard to the limitations imposed by the statutes of West Virginia.

"Believed It Actual Warfare."
"We considered the entire strike district was in a state of actual warfare," said Captain Morgan, with soldierly frankness, "and we acted according to the procedure of the United States Army in time of war."
"Was there any indictment or any other civil proceedings presented against these men?" asked Senator Borah.
"No," answered Major Pratt, "they were arraigned on charges and specifications prepared by the judge advocate general."
Senator Borah elicited that Captain Morgan, as a lawyer, believed there was no appeal from the decision of the commission. If approved by the Governor, except to the Supreme Court.

Return Secret Verdicts.

Senator Martine ascertained that after the case had heard the testimony in a closed session, the session, executed sealed findings after the manner of a verdict, and sent them to the Governor.

"Then the poor devil did not know what you had done with him until he was publicly called away to the penitentiary," suggested the New Jersey Senator.

"That's right," answered Captain Morgan, and the spectators smiled.

It was developed that as many as forty men had called there and tried a one time by the commission.

"There was no opportunity given a man to secure a new trial on the discovery of new evidence; no opportunity to give bail; no possibility of the issue being a stay of execution; your decision was the last and final!" suggested Mr. Munnick.

"Yes," answered Captain Morgan. "My understanding was," said Captain Morgan, "that during this state of insurrection which prevailed, the Constitution of the State of West Virginia has been suspended by the act of these men who were burning, killing and destroying property. We believed these men had suspended the Constitution, and that in order to perpetuate the State of West Virginia and restore the Constitution, we were justified in using extraordinary measures."

Captain Morgan declared that the military commission believed the authority was unlimited under the general order issued by Governor Glasscock.

Both Captain Morgan and Major

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HEAVY DRIVE ED BY BEARS

ket became dull, continued so until about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when the first evidence of the bear raid became apparent. During the last hour of the session more than 200,000 shares of stock were traded in, despite the refusal of the majority of the brokerage houses to accept margin orders on the leading speculative issues.

Drop Not Unexpected. The day of the rally a point below 50 was not entirely unexpected, for the bear interests have been manoeuvring toward this end for some time. The existence of a large number of shorts, who are not likely to be discussed openly, and this, together with several important factors, all considered adverse by the traders, accompanied the rally. The controlling factors were the unfavorable trade reports and the many stories circulated regarding a marked change for the worse in general business conditions. It was rumored that the Ford house, whose failure was announced on Tuesday, had been heavily interested in Steel and Canadian Pacific, and that was the indication in the market of these issues owing to this report.

The trading in Canadian Pacific was the heaviest ever recorded on the New York exchange; in all 54,000 shares changed hands. This stock opened at 217 3/4, and in a few moments was at 217 7/8, and after a long period of practical inactivity suddenly dropped to 210 1/4.